has stated at various fora that Sindri Unit of FCI and Barauni Unit of HFC will not be closed;

(b) if so, what economic and other measures have been taken by Government to keep these plants running;

(c) whether Government have any planning to merge these sick units with healthy companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) including its Sindri unit, and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) including its, Barauni unit, have been declared as sick companies by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. On 16.3.94 BIFR issued further orders appointing Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Ltd. (ICICI) as the Operating Agency in respect of FCI and HFC. Government has been providing, to the extent possible, budgetary support to FCI and HFC to carry out renewals|replacements and to meet partly their working capital requirements to enable these companies to run their plants, including the Sindri and Barauni units. Any final decision on the rehabilitation|restructuring of these units would depend upon the outcome of proceedings pending before the BIFR, which is a quasi-judicial authority.

(c) and (d) No such decision has been taken.

Lack of Funds in the Sindri Unit of FCI

6878. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain on-going capital works in progress are suffering due to lack of funds in the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited, Sindri Unit;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that supply of feedstock, spares and other inputs is threatened everyday due to non-clearance of arrears due;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what measures have been taken by Government to pay off the dues of creditors and to keep the plant running?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The progress on implementation of Sindri Revamping Phase-I and Phase-II Schemes, estimated to cost Rs. 15.23 crores and Rs. 19.66 crores, respectively, is slow on account of paucity of funds with the company.

(c) to (e) As on 31-3-1994 the outstanding arrears of input suppliers for Sindri unit of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI), were about Rs. 30 crores. The major outstandings are for coal, power, road and rail transport spares and chemicals, customs duty, bags etc. Government has been providing, to the extent possible, budgetary support to FCI to carry out renewals|replacements and to meet partly their working capital requirements. During the year 1993-94 budgetary support of Rs. 67.50 crores was provided to FCI. A provision of Rs. 60.50 crores has been made for the year 1994-95.

Operational of International airlines in domestic sectors

6879. SHRI RAMCHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in th 'Sunday Observer' of 7th March, 1993 under the captioned 'Ministries Skirmish over Open Skies Aviation Policy';